Vermont Compliance & Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting Minutes - Oct 14th, 2021

Board members in attendance:

Kyle Harris

Advisory members in attendance:

- Ashley Reynolds
- Ingrid Jonas
- Cary Giguere

Sub committee members in attendance:

- Tom Nolasco
- Mark Gorman
- Ashley Manning
- Jen Flanagan

Additional attendees:

- David Huber
- Jacob Policzer
- Sivan Cotel
- Xusana Davis
- Gina Kranwinkel

2 members of the public

Minutes recorded by Ashley Manning.

Tom calls the meeting to order at 2:00.

Kyle Harris kicked off the meeting wanting to address transportation and waste disposal issue and how the board will be addressing compliance & enforcement on Monday.

Kyle Harris asked Tom Nolasco about transportation.

Tom Nolasco stated he would focus on the transportation of the product; it could come from what a lot of states call a wholesaler between the retailers. The categories for transportation and what is required for the vehicle is proof of ownership, proof of insurance, the person driving has a license or some sort of proof that they are an employee of the license holder, a lot of states require a lockbox container that secures the product, cannot leave unattended, overnight, vehicle alarm systems, separation of medical vs recreational products, a lot of states require track and trace through the transportation system with a manifest to verify who/where it is being picked up by and delivered to. Those are general requirements.

Kyle Harris would like some addition for transportation from cultivator to testing site.

Jen Flanagan, stated general requirements are reporting, communications in the vehicle every half hour, a manifest in place, can only be transported by a cannabis agent, every car has to give access to law enforcement, Massachusetts has a 3rd party transporter license and the goal was to protect the product

and the staff, two people in the car at one time, they have to have corresponding driver's license from the state, all routes have to remain inside state borders, all agents need to be registered and verified through the state.

Kyle asked Ingrid Jonas to discuss her experience and thoughts from highway patrol perspective.

Ingrid Jonas asked what do the cars look like?

Jen Flannagan stated that they are unmarked retrofitted cars.

Sivan Cotel stated that those standards are more in depth than expected and may not be manageable by small cultivators.

Jen Flanagan responded that the decision in Massachusetts was made upon thinking about what could go right and what could go wrong, they needed to have requirements in place to prepare for what could happen. If you do not want a second person or 30-minute communication, those recommendations do not need to happen. Goal is to protect the employees and the product.

Sivan Cotel stated to Kyle Harris that Massachusetts regulations are a lot more than needed in Vermont, the board could think about a tiered approached and you are selling under a certain amount per delivery you do not need all those recommendations Jen and Tom made. If it is above a certain amount or miles, then you need those recommendations that Massachusetts has or modify accordingly to size.

David Huber pointed out that parts of southern Vermont are only accessible through Massachusetts roadways.

Tom Nolasco stated that the bare minimum should be to secure the product within the vehicle and to transport cannabis without it being secured in the vehicle would be a radical departure, if you are a small cultivator, it should be secured and not visible at minimal. Seed to sale also runs through transportation, so they will need to incorporate a seed to sale program as well.

Sivan Cotel stated there are sensible things like it must be locked in the vehicle, it can't be visible and placed in places such as the trunk or in the back of a truck with a cab on it.

Kyle Harris addressed Ingrid Jonas in regard to law enforcement after hearing from Sivan Cotel.

Ingrid Jonas asked that since there are two employees in the vehicle, aren't they more susceptible to theft?

Jen Flanagan stated there is a greater risk of employees stealing than outside employees. Having two drivers is protection for the persons in the car. In Massachusetts transportation you can come up with an alternative present to law enforcement and then present to the board if you cannot meet the needs of the regulations. Weighing before the trip and after delivery to verify there was no theft.

Ashley Reynolds stated we should have a tiered system and allow cultivators to transport it themselves.

Jen Flanagan stated that it's your staff that is transporting, it is not extra staffing.

Sivan Cotel stated, it's not about cost it's about staffing and that under a certain size and not visible is enough.

Ashley Reynolds stated it will not fit the culture of Vermont if we model Massachusetts.

Kyle Harris addressed Gina Kranwinkel regarding social equity delivery license.

Gina Kranwinkel stated that leaving it up to the dispensary for the cars, to have a lockbox, product cannot be visible, car with GPS tracking and suggested that the board should first establish what the most basic security measures should be, then develop a tiered system.

Gina Kranwinkel stated that hemp plants are different than the cannabis THC plants with a higher dollar value.

Kyle Harris switched the conversation into waste disposal that the ag agency has in place.

Jen Flanagan stated that in Massachusetts they follow the wastewater act that are happening with other industries, but the one difference is the cannabis waste must be ground up and disposed of and adhere to the federal waste act and you can contract with someone to have it taken to a compost site.

David Huber discussed how the ag agency has a few ways of disposing of waste, composting, buried, stacked, must be cut up and processed with a mixture of dirt to make it unrecognizable and unusable. When it comes to pesticides, there are a few methods, the agency can step in with a fund and pay to dispose of the pesticides at a licensed facility.

Cary Giguere added it is important to classify the waste and locking of dumpsters would be appropriate, but handling ethanol waste from a processor, waste from hydroponic need to be classified when disposed. A way to prevent diversion of cannabis waste should be the focus.

Kyle Harris addressed Jacob Policzer to talk about the different types of waste.

Jacob discussed where the sustainability committee is in regard to cannabis waste classification and how they are handling.

Jacob Policzer stated that on the transportation side, what are the actual insurance requirements for products? That might be a baseline for consideration.

Kyle Harris addressed that on Monday he would like to arrive to a consensus on open items.

Meeting adjourns at 2:59.